

Remarks

Claims 1 and 3 are amended.

Claims 6-12 are added.

Claims 1-12 are now present in this application.

Amendments

Independent claim 1 is amended to require "a" to be 10 to 25. Support for this amendment is found in lines 4-6 of page 6 of the specification.

Claim 1 is also amended to require that component (b) is incorporated into the film. Support for this limitation is found in the first paragraph, page 9, the second and third paragraphs of page 20, and the working Examples on pages 20-23 of the specification.

Claim 3 is amended to state that a is 12, 13 or 14 and b is 2 or 3 in the compounds of formula $\text{CH}_3\text{CH}_2(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2)_a\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_b\text{OH}$. Support is found in the first full paragraph of page 6 of the specification.

New claims 6 and 11 find support in the second paragraph of page 9 of the specification.

New claims 7 and 12 find support in the third paragraph of page 9 of the specification.

New claims 8-10 correspond to original claims 2, 4 and 5 and depend on claim 3.

No new matter is added with the present amendments and new claims 6-12.

Claim Rejections

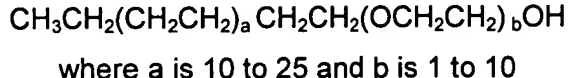
Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being obvious over Ciocca, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 5,766,772 (Ciocca '772) or Hackbel, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 3,048,266 (Hackbel '266) or EP 1055610 (EP '610), each alone or further in view of Unithox Technical Release No. 4022.0.

Ciocca '772 discloses polyolefin film comprising a polyoxyethylene ether of a fatty alcohol having from 8 to 20 carbon atoms.

Hackbel '266 discloses polyolefin films comprising ethers of ethylene oxide. The ether group of these compounds contains from 12 to 22 carbon atoms.

EP '610 discloses specifically polyoxyethylene lauryl ether (polyoxyethylene dodecyl ether) on page 4, paragraphs 28 and 29. The fatty alcohol portion (lauryl alcohol) has 12 carbons.

The structure of the alkyl ethoxylate of the amended main claim is:



The fatty alcohol portion of the present antifog agent now has at least 24 carbon atoms. There is no possible overlap of the disclosures of Ciocca '772 or Hackbel '266 or EP '610 with the present claims.

The Unithox Technical Release No. 4022.0 discloses a series of ethoxylates of fatty alcohols. One variation in these compounds is in the chain length of the ethoxylate portion (the "y" value). The present "b" variable is equivalent to the "y" variable of the Unithox Technical Release.

Present working Example 2 on pages 22 and 23 of the specification display unexpected results for the present ethoxylated alcohols vs. those not of the present claims. For example, when a present compound of a = 13 and b = 2.5 is compared to a similar compound where a = 13 and b = 10.5, the hours at D/E hot fog test in LDPE film are 1100 vs. 150, a greater than 7 fold improvement.

This success cannot be predicted or expected from the combined disclosures of the cited art. There is nothing from the combined disclosures of the cited art that would direct a skilled artisan to the use of the present specific diblock copolymers as antifog additives for polyolefin films and to expect such outstanding results.

Applicants submit that in light of the present amendments and the above discussion, that the 35 USC 103(a) rejections are addressed and are overcome.

The Examiner is kindly requested to reconsider and to withdraw the present rejections.

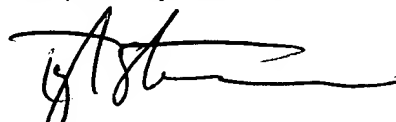
Information Disclosure

Applicants submit herewith copies of EP 931805, DE 2109030, the Derwent Abstract for DE 2109030 and U.S. Pat. No. 5,654,086. The references are cited on PTO form 1449.

The Examiner is kindly requested to indicate that the references have been considered by returning an initialed copy of PTO form 1449.

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Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments: PTO form 1449
IDS fee letter
EP 931805
DE 2109030
Derwent Abstract for DE 2109030
U.S. Pat. No. 5,654,086